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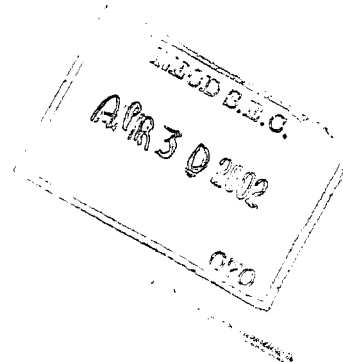
P- 7784

**NYSE**

CEQTVYS

April 30, 2002

Ms. Krista M. Hughes  
Branch Chief  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
Branch of Filer Support 2  
Room 1004 -- STOP/1-4  
450 Fifth Street, NW  
Judiciary Plaza  
Washington, DC 20549

**PROCESSED**

MAY 07 2002

**THOMSON  
FINANCIAL**

Dear Ms. Hughes:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, CenturyTel, Inc., Corporate Units and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on April 30, 2002. Tentative listing date – May 1, 2002.

Sincerely,

Paras elasho